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Date Sent: JULY 27, 1960

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Visa application of Dean S. Rugg, Geographic Attache, for period October 1 - 24, 1960, has been submitted to Bulgarian Embassy, Belgrade. Rugg desires to attend Bulgarian Geographical Conference in early October and to visit geographical and cartographical institutes. Visit will follow that of Dr. Arthur L. Burt, Coordinator for Maps in the Department. It is hoped that invitation to Conference can be arranged at International Geographical Conference in Stockholm which Burt and Rugg will attend in August.

Conversations were held by Burt in Department and in Bonn on July 15 with Jean and Rugg regarding possibility of Rugg visit to Bulgaria. Problem intensified owing to denunciation of Rugg on June 5, 1960 by Czechoslovak Minister of Interior. Portion of speech refers to Rugg as follows: "However, U.S. retained a particular interest in geography. For example, in July last year a U.S. Diplomat, Dean Rugg, arrived in our country. This gentleman is active at the U. S. Embassy in Bonn as a Geographic Attache. This excellent diplomat with a special cartographic education remained in our country for three weeks and attempted to procure all sorts of plans and maps of towns, districts, and regions. Only naive people would believe that he did it for peaceful or even scientific reasons."

In the light of timing of speech and mention of other spying activities, Embassy Bonn suspects it was merely collection unfounded charges designed support current Soviet Bloc line accusing U.S. of espionage and provocations. Actual facts of Rugg visit different since he had full permission Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry for all visits,

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and activities within country involved no incidents. A communication was sent to Department and Embassy Prague regarding the possibility of setting the record straight with Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry.

Under these circumstances, a decision was made to have JRugg apply for visa and inform Legation Sofia of facts. It is requested that Legation assist Rugg procure visa. Application will mention desire to visit geographic and cartographic institutes but not Geographical Conference since invitation is not yet available.

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AUTH: ADM: AKJeah

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